IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 8-16 and 28-32 without prejudice or disclaimer and amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a logical router within a physical router, the method comprising:

creating at least one logical router (LR) on the physical router;

allocating a plurality of router elements within the physical router to the at least one LR;

assigning ownership of the at least one LR to an LR owner entity; and

configuring the plurality of [[the]] router elements within the LR;

wherein creating the at least one LR, allocating the plurality of router elements and assigning ownership of the at least one LR require at least a first privilege level and wherein configuring the plurality of router elements requires at least a second privilege level, the second privilege level restricting access to the at least one LR to the LR owner entity or to a user having the first privilege level.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein allocating a plurality of router elements includes assigning a slot address to the at least one LR.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein allocating a plurality of router elements includes assigning a router element identifier to the at least one LR.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein configuring the plurality of [[the]] router ~~element is~~ elements includes configuring a distributed route processor.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein configuring the plurality of [[the]] router ~~element is~~ elements includes configuring a line card.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein configuring the plurality of [[the]] router ~~element is~~ elements includes configuring a Route Processor.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein allocating a [[the]] router element of the plurality of router elements includes allocating the router element to [[is]] only ~~allocated to~~ one LR at a particular time.

8.-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A router comprising:

means for creating at least one LR on the physical router;

means for allocating a plurality of router elements within the physical router to at least one LR;

means for assigning ownership of the at least one LR to an LR owner entity; and

means for configuring the plurality of the router elements within the LR;

wherein the means for creating the at least one LR, the means for allocating the plurality of router elements and the means for assigning ownership of the at least one LR require at least a first privilege level and wherein the means for configuring the plurality of router elements requires at least a second privilege level, the second privilege level restricting access to the at least one LR to the LR owner entity or to a user having the first privilege level..

18. (Original) The router claim 17, wherein the means for allocating a plurality of router elements includes means for assigning a slot address to the at least one LR.

19. (Original) The router of claim 17, wherein the means for allocating a plurality of router elements includes means for assigning a router element identifier to the at least one LR.

20. (Original) The router of claim 17, wherein the router element is a distributed route processor.

21. (Original) The router of claim 17, wherein the router element is a line card.

22. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for providing a logical router (LR) within a physical router, the method comprising:

creating at least one LR on the physical router;

allocating a plurality of router elements within the physical router to the at least one LR

assigning ownership of the at least one LR to an LR owner entity; and

configuring the plurality of [[the]] router elements within the at least one LR;

wherein creating the at least one LR, allocating the plurality of router elements and assigning ownership of the at least one LR require at least a first privilege level and wherein configuring the plurality of router elements requires at least a second privilege level, the second privilege level restricting access to the at least one LR to the LR owner entity or to a user having the first privilege level..

23. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein allocating a plurality of router elements includes assigning a slot address to the at least one LR.

24. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein allocating a plurality of router elements includes assigning a router element identifier to the at least one LR.

25. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein configuring the plurality of [[the]] router ~~element is~~ elements includes configuring a distributed route processor.

26. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein configuring the plurality of [[the]] router ~~element is~~ elements includes configuring a line card.

27. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein allocating a [[the]] router element of the plurality of router elements includes allocating the router element to [[is]] only ~~allocated to~~ one LR at a particular time.

28.-32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) A computerized method for configuring a logical router (LR) within a physical router, the method comprising:

selecting a LR on the physical router, the LR having an owner entity;

allocating a plurality of router elements within the physical router to the ~~at least one~~ selected LR; [[and]]

~~configuring~~ receiving configuration data for the plurality of the router elements within the at least one LR; and

storing the configuration data in a configuration for the LR;

wherein selecting the LR, and allocating the plurality of router elements require at least a first privilege level and wherein receiving configuration data for the plurality of router elements and storing the configuration data requires at least a second privilege level, the second privilege level restricting access to the at least one LR to the LR owner entity or to a user having the first privilege level.

34. (Original) The computerized method of claim 33, wherein selecting the LR comprises selecting a default LR

35. (Original) The computerized method of claim 33, wherein allocating a plurality of router elements includes assigning a slot address to the at least one LR.

36. (Original) The computerized method of claim 33, wherein allocating a plurality of router elements includes assigning a router element identifier to the at least one LR.

37. (Currently Amended) The computerized method of claim 33, wherein configuring the plurality of [[the]] router ~~element is~~ elements includes configuring a distributed route processor.

38. (Currently Amended) The computerized method of claim 33, wherein configuring the plurality of [[the]] router ~~element is~~ elements includes configuring a line card.

39. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for providing a logical router (LR) within a physical router, the method comprising:

selecting a LR on the physical router, the LR having an owner entity;

allocating a plurality of router elements within the physical router to the ~~at least one~~ selected LR; [[and]]

~~configuring~~ receiving configuration data for the plurality of the router elements within the at least one LR; and

storing the configuration data in a configuration for the LR;

wherein selecting the LR, and allocating the plurality of router elements require at least a first privilege level and wherein receiving configuration data for the plurality of router elements and storing the configuration data requires at least a second privilege level, the second privilege level restricting access to the at least one LR to the LR owner entity or to a user having the first privilege level.

40. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 39, wherein selecting the LR comprises selecting a default LR.

41. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 39, wherein allocating a plurality of router elements includes assigning a slot address to the at least one LR.

42. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 39, wherein allocating a plurality of router elements includes assigning a router element identifier to the at least one LR.

43. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 39, wherein receiving configuration data for a router element of the plurality of router elements includes receiving configuration data for ~~the router element is~~ a distributed route processor.

44. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 39, wherein receiving configuration data for a router element of the plurality of router elements includes receiving configuration data for ~~the router element is~~ a line card.